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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. HOOV 118

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Michael D. Hooven

Serial No.: 10/015,862

Filed: December 12, 2001

Group Art No.: 3739

Examiner: Rosiland S. Kearney

For: TRANSMURAL ABLATION DEVICE
WITH SPRING LOADED JAWS

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, Applicant hereby calls the Examiner's attention to documents listed on the attached form, which documents may be material to the examination of this application. A copy of each of the documents is enclosed herewith for the Examiner's consideration.

No inference should be drawn that any method disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. Also, the citation of the above-discussed documents is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence.

Citation of any document herein is not to be construed as an admission that any subject matter disclosed in the document is necessarily within the inventive field of endeavor, that any disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that any disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention.

Applicant also respectfully reserves the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosure of those documents discussed herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the present patent application.

The enclosed references were cited in an office action in a related application received within the past three months. After making a reasonable inquiry of the client/inventor and relevant application files, it is certified that to the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, no item in this statement was previously known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Accordingly, it is believed that no additional fee is required for the submission of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. However, should an additional fee be required,

authorization is hereby given to charge Deposit Account 50-1039.

(A duplicate of this document is enclosed herewith.)

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 27, 2003

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